

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Scheme is likely to be implemented in mainly dry land and drought prone districts susceptible to farmer suicides; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Government's liability mainly depends upon the extent of damage to the insured crops during the year. Budget 2007 has a provision of Rs. 500.00 crores for National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) for the year 2007-08.

(b) NAIS is applicable in all areas including dry land and drought prone areas.

(c) Does not arise.

Inclusion of agriculture in the Seventh Schedule

431. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to amend the Constitution so as to include the agriculture in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the constraints/problems being faced in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers submitted by the National Commission on Farmers had *inter alia* recommended for inclusion of agriculture in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Though State Governments are responsible for implementation of policies and programmes for development of agriculture in their respective States, the Union Government plays a crucial role in the provision of research and education, credit, risk management and other measures to support the State Governments for development of agriculture through various schemes and programmes. It

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is felt that agriculture is better managed by State Governments in the field with Government of India providing for intervention at the macro level. Hence no immediate need is felt for including agriculture in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Horticulture development

432. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centres for holistic development of horticulture sector under the Centrally sponsored scheme on National Horticulture Mission created State-wise, district-wise in the Tenth Five Year Plan and their progress;

(b) whether any proposal has been finalised to set up infrastructural facilities under the scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the effective measures being taken by Government for achieving the objectives and targets fixed under this scheme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The National Horticulture Mission (NHM) was launched during 2005-06, for holistic development of horticulture sector, duly ensuring an end to end approach having backward and forward linkage covering production, post harvest management and marketing with the active involvement of all the stake holders. Under the Mission, an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach is being adopted for development of horticulture crops having comparative advantage. During 2005-06, the Scheme was implemented in 227 districts in 18 States. Another 35 districts were included during 2006-07 in these 18 States and two Union Territories thus making a total of 262 districts. The State-wise details indicating the crops and districts covered under NHM during the Tenth Plan is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) The proposal has been approved 'in principle' for setting up 13010 Nos. of post harvest management infrastructure and 930 No. of markets during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. State-wise details are finalized